elected representatives. The village societies federate into a district union managed by the elected representatives of the village societies. The unions, in turn are federated into a State Dairy Federation which is managed by the elected representatives of the district unions. The milk procurement prices are decided by the Management of respective district cooperative milk producers Unions, keeping in view the market trend of milk products. Reduction in milk procurement price during winter and increase during summer is a normal/common practice in dairy industry across the country based on sale realization of milk and milk products during winter and summer.

(c) In order to safeguard the commercial interest of the milk producer in Punjab, the Punjab Cooperative Milk Producer's Federation Ltd. is mainly concentrating on:—

(i) strengthening of it marketing network to have better realization;

(ii) making sincere efforts to accelerate export of its milk products in international markets; and

(iii) developing value added milk products by adopting modern technology.

**Security of Lai Qila**

† 3650. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ. Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that security arrangement of Lai Qila has been curtalied considerably;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to take any concrete steps for security of Lai Qila and other important places; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Loss to Defence Forces due to recent earthquake in Gujarat**

3651. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:
SHRI GOPALStNH G. SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any loss of lives and properties has been caused to the Indian Army/Air Force/Navy during the recent earthquake;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the estimated expenditure incurred by the Air Force in its evacuation operation in Gujarat; and

(d) the details of the efforts made and aid provided so far in order to restore the situation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) The recent earthquake in Gujarat has caused significant loss to personnel and damage to properties of the Indian Armed Forces. 29 defence employees of the Armed Forces and 57 family members have died. 25 defence employees and 61 family members have been injured. The financial loss for replacement of damaged infrastructure/assets has been estimated at Rs. 224 crores of the Armed Forces.

(c) The expenditure incurred by the Air Force in its evacuation operation in Gujarat has been estimated at Rs. 109 crores.

(d) The Armed Forces launched their largest ever relief operations